

### REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks. Claims 3-5, 9, and 10 have been amended, claims 1 and 7 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer to the subject matter therein, and claim 19 has been added. Claim 2 was cancelled previously. Upon entry of this Amendment, claims 3-6 and 8-19 will remain pending.

#### **I. Allowable Subject Matter**

During the personal interview of October 28, 2003, the Examiner agreed that claim 5 would be allowable if amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 7. The Applicants have so amended claim 5 and respectfully submit that claim 5 is now allowable. Claims 6 and 8, which depend from claim 5, are patentable for the reasons supporting patentability of claim 5 and for the additional features recited therein. The Applicants also have amended claim 3 to incorporate limitations of both claims 5 and 7 and respectfully submit that claim 3 is now allowable. Claims 4 and 9-18, which depend directly or indirectly from claim 3, are patentable for the reasons supporting patentability of claim 3 and for the additional features recited therein.

#### **II. Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103**

##### **A. Claims 1, 3, and 9-11**

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 3, and 9-11 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ramesh et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,668,820; “Ramesh”) in view of Koetje Anno et al. (EP 0660558A2; “Koetje Anno”). The Applicants have cancelled claim 1, rendering the rejection moot with respect to that claim. As discussed above, claim 3 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claims 5 and 7 and is therefore patentable. Claims 9-11 depend from claim 3 and are thus patentable as well. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection has been overcome.

##### **B. Claims 4, 7, and 12-16**

The Examiner rejected claims 4, 7, and 12-16 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ramesh in view of Koetje Anno and Kuroda et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,432,800). The Applicants have cancelled claim 7, rendering the rejection moot with respect to that claim. Claims 4 and 12-16 depend directly or indirectly from amended claim 3, which

for the above-noted reasons, is patentable. Thus, claims 4 and 12-16 also are patentable, and the Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection has been overcome.

### **C. Claims 5, 6, 8, 17, and 18**

The Examiner rejected claims 5, 6, 8, 17, and 18 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ramesh in view of Koetje Anno and Bach et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,475,686). As discussed above, claim 5 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 7 and is therefore patentable. Claims 6 and 8 depend from claim 5 and are thus patentable as well. Claims 17 and 18 depend from amended claim 3 and are patentable for the above-noted reasons. Therefore, the Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of claims 5, 6, 8, 17, and 18 has been overcome.

### **III. New Claim 19 Is Patentable**

The Applicants have added new claim 19, which is similar to claim 5 and recites, *inter alia*:

transferring the information to be transmitted in a transfer system by generating a *320 bit transcoding frame* having a plurality of data octets, the first two data octets forming a synchronization pattern that consists of zeros, and said transcoding frame containing control bits and at least 288 bits of information to be transmitted

The Applicants respectfully submit that neither Ramesh, Koetje Anno, nor Bach, taken alone or in combination, teaches or suggests at least the above feature of claim 19. In particular, the Applicants respectfully point out that Bach requires at least 35 synchronization bits per 320 bit frame. (See col. 2, lines 37-41; see also col. 3, lines 57-60 and Figs. 4A-4D.) In contrast, the Applicants' claimed 320 bit transcoding frame, which includes at least 288 information bits and control bits, does not have sufficient space for 35 synchronization bits. Therefore, Bach, with its excessive number of synchronization bits, in fact teaches away from, and cannot be used to implement, the Applicants' claimed transcoding frame. For at least this reason, new claim 19 is patentable and allowable.

### **IV. Conclusion**

All rejections having been addressed, the Applicants request issuance of a notice of allowance indicating the allowability of claims 3-6 and 8-19. If anything further is necessary

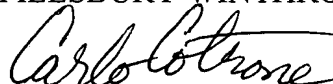
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to place the application in condition for allowance, the Applicants request that the Examiner contact the Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

Please charge any fees associated with the submission of this paper to Deposit Account Number 033975. The Commissioner for Patents is also authorized to credit any over payments to the above-referenced Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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